05 LC 28 2097

House Bill 229

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By: Representatives Oliver of the 83rd, Porter of the 143rd, Ashe of the 56th, Hugley of the 133rd, and Watson of the 91st

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

- 1 To amend Code Section 21-2-380 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
- 2 definition of absentee elector, so as to extend the time for advanced voting; to provide for
- 3 related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

5 SECTION 1.

6 Code Section 21-2-380 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to definition of

absentee elector, is amended by striking subsection (b) and inserting in lieu thereof a new

8 subsection (b) to read as follows:

9 "(b) An elector who casts an absentee ballot in person at the registrar's office or absentee

ballot clerk's office during the period of Monday through Friday of the week immediately

preceding the date of a primary, election, or run-off primary or election During the period

of Monday through Friday of the two weeks immediately preceding the date of a primary,

election, or run-off primary or election, an elector who casts an absentee ballot in person

at the registrar's office or the absentee ballot clerk's office, as appropriate to the primary,

election, or runoff being held, shall not be required to provide a reason as identified in

subsection (a) of this Code section in order to cast an absentee ballot in such primary,

election, or run-off primary or election. In addition, the registrar or absentee ballot clerk,

as appropriate to the primary, election, or runoff being held, is authorized to extend office

hours and receive such ballots during the evening hours Monday through Friday during

such two-week period and to receive such ballots on the Saturday prior to such two-week

period and the intervening Saturday. No such ballots shall be received on the Saturday

immediately prior to such primary, election, or runoff. Electors casting absentee ballots

in person during such extended evening or Saturday hours shall not be required to provide

a reason as identified in subsection (a) of this Code section in order to cast an absentee

ballot in such primary, election, or run-off primary or election."

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1 SECTION 2.

2 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.